WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for detecting a defect on a portion of an element comprising:

acquiring an image of said portion;

analyzing said image to highlight problematic regions of said portion;

calculating a probability that said problematic region is a defect;

if said probability is higher than a threshold value, determining a position of said defect on said element.

2. A method for classifying a defect on an element, comprising:

acquiring an image of said defect;

calculating a probability that said defect corresponds to one of a series of types of defects;

if said probability is higher than a threshold value, determining that said defect is a defect of that particular type.

3. A method for recommending a most suitable rehabilitation technique for a defect, comprising:

identifying a series of parameters corresponding to said defect;

calculating a relative utility for each of a series of potential rehabilitation techniques using rehabilitation profiles;

determining a most suitable rehabilitation technique for said defect corresponding to a highest value of said relative utility.

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